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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Indochina/China	REPORT NO.	<input type="text"/> 25X1A
SUBJECT	Construction of Supply Depots, Democratic Republic of Vietnam	DATE DISTR.	14 September 1953
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1. In November 1952 construction was begun on supply depots in the natural mountain caves at Ch'ingshanyen (7230/1472/1484). Ch'ingshanyen extended over an area of about ten square kilometers, and was approximately eight kilometers north of Langson (N 21-50, E 106-44); one section was adjacent to Munankuan, formerly known as Chennankuan (N 22-04, E 108-41). There were three sectors of Ch'ingshanyen; they were called Tach'ingshanyen (Greater Ch'ingshanyen); Erhch'ingshanyen (Second Ch'ingshanyen), and Sanch'ingshanyen (Third Ch'ingshanyen).¹
2. By mid-June 1953, 25 of these depots had been completed. Each depot consisted of two compartments, one for concealing motor vehicles and one for storing supplies. There were no depots at Tach'ingshanyen because the hillsides were too steep, but there were 15 at Erhch'ingshanyen and ten at Sanch'ingshanyen, organized into groups of four or five depots.² In June the usual amount of Chinese Communist and Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) supplies stored at Ch'ingshanyen at any given time was about 2,000 tons.³
3. In mid-June 1953 the transshipment point for the exchange of Chinese Communist and DRV supplies was within a temple at the entrance to P'inglots'un (1996/7512/2625), Munankuan. Most of the Chinese Communist and DRV personnel connected with the depots were based at P'inglots'un and former residents of Ch'ingshanyen were also crowded into P'inglots'un.

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1. Comment. These are literal translations of the sector names.
2. Comment. travel from Indo-China to China was prohibited in the Erhch'ingshan and Sanch'ingshan areas in August, presumably because of the presence of these depots in the area.
3. Comment. between 20 and 27 May, 800 tons of Chinese Communist supplies for the DRV were moved from storage spots in Kwangsi into DRV areas.

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